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**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1-19 stand rejected.

***Telephone Interview of October 4, 2006***

Applicant thanks the Examiner for her participation in the telephone interview of October 4, 2006, with the undersigned attorney. During the interview, Applicant's attorney and the Examiner discussed the fact that pending Claim 20 was not addressed by the Office Action of July 13, 2006. Also discussed was the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejection of the claims under the Hunt reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,142,982). Hunt had been cited by an Office Action in the parent case of the present application (see *Office Action of December 5, 2001*; U.S. Application Serial No. 09/545,339). In the parent case, the reference was withdrawn following the submission by Applicant of a Declaration stating that Hunt and the invention were commonly owned by the Applicant's assignee at the time the invention was made (See *Response to Office Action of April 23, 2002*; U.S. Application Serial No. 09/545,339). A copy of the Declaration filed in the parent case is enclosed.

During the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that another Office Action would be issued following Applicant's submission of this After-Final Response. In accordance with the agreement reached during the interview, and for the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 involving Hunt and requests that Claim 20 be examined.

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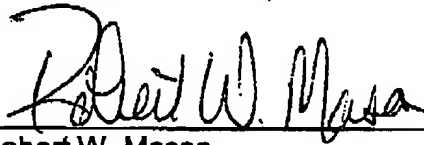
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**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that pending Claims 1-20 are in condition for examination and allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: 10/5/06



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**ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT**

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**STATEMENT OF COMMON OWNERSHIP  
DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, all statements made herein on information and belief are believed to be true, and all statements made herein are made with the knowledge that whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Patent and Trademark Office, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be subject to fine not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment not more than five years or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that violations of this paragraph may jeopardize the validity of this application or document, or the validity or enforceability of any patent, trademark registration, or certificate resulting therefrom; and to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, this paper is not being presented for any purpose, such as to harass someone or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of prosecution before the Office; the claims and other legal contentions herein are warranted by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law or the establishment of new law; the allegations and other factual contentions have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and the denials of factual contentions are warranted on the evidence, or if specifically so identified, are reasonably based on a lack of information or belief.

U.S. Application Serial No. 09/545,339 and U.S. Patent No. 6,142,982 were,  
at the time the invention of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/545,339 was made, owned by  
Kinetic Concepts, Inc.

KCI LICENSING, INC.

  
By: Michael Burke  
Title: Vice President

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